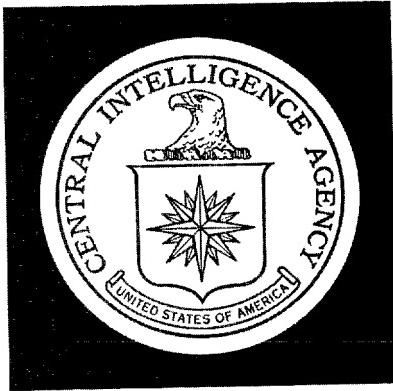
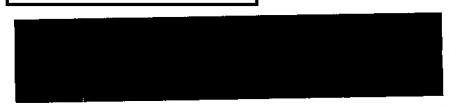


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Communist China - USSR: Peking has reacted to Moscow's recent criticism of the Cultural Revolution with an intensified campaign against Soviet leaders.

The Chinese appear to have deliberately provoked an incident in Red Square on 25 January. Soviet authorities allegedly beat up Chinese students who tried to place wreaths on the tombs of Lenin and Stalin. This was followed by mass demonstrations outside the Soviet Embassy in Peking. Anti-Soviet posters were put up in many parts of the Chinese capital yesterday and Red Guard propaganda sound trucks have poured out invectives against the Soviet leaders.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry protest of 26 January and a People's Daily commentary employed the harshest language ever directed against Moscow. Peking berated the Soviet leaders for "fascist atrocities" and for the first time claimed that a "blood debt" had been incurred.

The latest attacks on the Soviet leaders are probably a reaction to recent Soviet moves against Peking, including jamming of Russian language broadcasts from China and publication of lurid accounts of Chinese persecution of central Asian minorities.

The Chinese appear to be particularly sensitive to Soviet ridicule of the Cultural Revolution. People's Daily yesterday insisted defensively that the more violently the Soviets oppose the revolution, "the more conclusive is the proof" that China's policies are correct.

The Chinese probably believe they can engage in such provocative actions with little risk of a break in relations. The USSR would be reluctant to surrender the last vestiges of its political presence in Peking and to complicate its efforts to aid North Vietnam.

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West Germany: The Germans have hardened their position on future military offset payments to the US and UK, and now say they may have to cut them severely or even suspend them.

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The Erhard government had promised to do its best to fulfill the current agreement.

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Belgium-Congo (Kinshasa): Union Miniere has made a small move toward reopening negotiations with Mobutu.

The company will send representatives to Kinshasa for technical talks if the Congolese agree on the issues to be arbitrated. Mobutu has said he is prepared to arbitrate, but Union Miniere wants it in writing. If discussions do begin, they are likely to be prolonged.

Unless a settlement is reached quickly, the Congo will be hard pressed to meet its foreign exchange requirement, a minimum of \$20 million a month. About \$50 million worth of copper has accumulated in the Congo, but Union Miniere has blocked its sale or use as security for a loan.

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NOTE

USSR-Cuba: The Soviet freighter Khimik Zelenskiy, which is expected to arrive in Cuba about 9 February, appears to be carrying a military cargo.

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[redacted] At least ten Mig-17s, three Mig-15s, and two Mig-21 fighters with a limited all-weather capability--the first seen in Cuba--have arrived since the current cycle of deliveries began last September.

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